

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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HB-6579

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF THE CRISIS
INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	GF - Cost	390,000 - 1.9 million	See Below
Mental Health & Addiction Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	455,400	933,570
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	248,000 - 452,000	399,750

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which expands the CRISIS Initiative pilot program throughout the state by January 1, 2024, is anticipated to result in a total state cost ranging from \$1.1 million to \$2.8 million in FY 24 and at least \$1.3 million in FY 25.

The bill results in a cost to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) of at least \$390,000 and up to \$1.9 million in FY 24, with a cost to the Office of the State Comptroller ranging from \$53,000 to \$267,000 for associated fringe benefits, depending on how many additional state troopers are trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training. Currently, there are about 40 trained CIT state troopers.

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

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The cost to train an additional 136 troopers to achieve 25% of troopers trained,² is approximately \$440,000, while the cost to train all remaining troopers is approximately \$2.1 million (inclusive of training fees, overtime costs, and associated fringe benefit rates to cover officers who go to training). CIT training is a 40-hour course and costs \$189 per trooper.

The bill also results in a cost to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) of approximately \$455,400 in FY 24 and \$933,750 in FY 25 (with associated fringe costs of \$195,000 in FY 24 and \$399,750 in FY 25) to support 9 additional social workers. Social workers will assist state police in deescalating situations involving individuals with mental illness and ensure access to follow-up services.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation. The annual cost to train state police and cover overtime costs would be based on the number of additional troopers requiring CIT training in the future.

² According to the Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement (CABLE), the state's provider of CIT training, the goal of the CIT program is for each department to have at least 25% of its sworn patrol force trained and to have several CIT officers cover each shift.